

# Allah Alone Knows the Unseen

Shehla Rani

The blessings that Allah swt has given man (i.e. ashraf al makhlooqat-The Noblest of All Creatures) includes one of the greatest blessings, the blessing of knowledge.

There are two types of knowledge:

1-Knowledge that can be perceived using the five senses and gained using them.

2-The other is hidden knowledge (Ilm al Ghaib). The hidden knowledge needed by man for guidance was given to us by Allah swt through His Messengers. The rest of Ghaib has been kept hidden from us.

This becomes clear as we read the ayahs given below:

قَالَ يَا آدَمُ أَنْبِئْهُمْ بِأَسْمَائِهِمْ فَلَمَّا أَنْبَأَهُمْ بِأَسْمَائِهِمْ قَالَ أَلَمْ أَقُلْ لَكُمْ إِنِّي أَعْلَمُ الْغَيْبِ  
السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَأَعْلَمُ مَا تُبْدُونَ وَمَا كُنْتُمْ تَكْتُمُونَ ﴿٣٣﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْبَقَرَةِ﴾

He said, "O Adam, inform them of their names." And when he had informed them of their names, He said, "Did I not tell you that I know the unseen [aspects] of the heavens and the earth? And I know what you reveal and what you have concealed.

يَوْمَ يَجْمَعُ اللَّهُ الرُّسُلَ فَيَقُولُ مَاذَا أُجِبْتُمْ قَالُوا لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ ﴿١٠٩﴾  
﴿سُورَةُ الْمَائِدَةِ﴾

[Be warned of] the Day when Allah will assemble the messengers and say, "What was the response you received?" They will say, "We have no knowledge. Indeed, it is You who is Knower of the unseen.

وَإِذْ قَالَ اللَّهُ يَا عِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ أَأَنْتَ قُلْتَ لِلنَّاسِ اتَّخِذُونِي وَأُمِّي إِلهَيْنِ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ قَالَ  
سُبْحَانَكَ مَا يَكُونُ لِي أَنْ أَقُولَ مَا لَيْسَ لِي بِحَقِّ إِنْ كُنْتُ قُلْتُهُ فَقَدْ عَلِمْتَهُ تَعْلَمُ مَا فِي  
نَفْسِي وَلَا أَعْلَمُ مَا فِي نَفْسِكَ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ ﴿١١٦﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْمَائِدَةِ﴾

And [beware the Day] when Allah will say, "O Jesus, Son of Mary, did you say to the people, 'Take me and my mother as deities besides Allah?'" He will say, "Exalted are You! It was not for me to say that to which I have no right. If I had said it, You would have known it. You know what is within myself, and I do not know what is within Yourself. Indeed, it is You who is Knower of the unseen.

قُلْ لَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ عِنْدِي خَزَائِنُ اللَّهِ وَلَا أَعْلَمُ الْغَيْبَ وَلَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ إِنِّي مَلَكٌ إِنْ أَتَيْتُ  
إِلَّا مَا يُوحَىٰ إِلَيَّ قُلْ هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الْأَعْمَىٰ وَالْبَصِيرُ أَفَلَا تَتَفَكَّرُونَ ﴿٥٠﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْأَنْعَامِ﴾

Say, [O Muhammad], "I do not tell you that I have the depositories [containing the provision] of Allah or that I know the unseen, nor do I tell you that I am an angel. I only follow what is revealed to me." Say, "Is the blind equivalent to the seeing? Then will you not give thought?

وَعِنْدَهُ مَفَاتِيحُ الْغَيْبِ لَا يَعْلَمُهَا إِلَّا هُوَ وَيَعْلَمُ مَا فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ وَمَا تَسْقُطُ مِنْ وَرَقَةٍ إِلَّا  
يَعْلَمُهَا وَلَا حَبَّةٌ فِي ظُلُمَاتِ الْأَرْضِ وَلَا رَطْبٌ وَلَا يَابِسٌ إِلَّا فِي كِتَابٍ مُبِينٍ ﴿٥٩﴾  
﴿سُورَةُ الْأَنْعَامِ﴾

And with Him are the keys of the unseen; none knows them except Him. And He knows what is on the land and in the sea. Not a leaf falls but that He knows it. And no grain is there

within the darknesses of the earth and no moist or dry [thing]  
but that it is [written] in a clear record.

وَهُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ بِالْحَقِّ وَيَوْمَ يَقُولُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ قَوْلُهُ الْحَقُّ وَلَهُ  
الْمُلْكُ يَوْمَ يُنفَخُ فِي الصُّورِ عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ وَهُوَ الْحَكِيمُ الْخَبِيرُ ﴿٧٣﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْأَنْعَامِ﴾

And it is He who created the heavens and earth in truth. And  
the day He says, "Be," and it is, His word is the truth. And His is  
the dominion [on] the Day the Horn is blown. [He is] Knower of  
the unseen and the witnessed; and He is the Wise, the  
Acquainted.

قُلْ لَا أَمْلِكُ لِنَفْسِي نَفْعًا وَلَا ضَرًّا إِلَّا مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ وَلَوْ كُنْتُ أَعْلَمُ الْغَيْبِ لَاسْتَكْثَرْتُ مِنَ  
الْخَيْرِ وَمَا مَسَّنِيَ السُّوءُ إِنْ أَنَا إِلَّا نَذِيرٌ وَبَشِيرٌ لِّقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿١٨٨﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْأَعْرَافِ﴾

Say, "I hold not for myself [the power of] benefit or harm,  
except what Allah has willed. And if I knew the unseen, I could  
have acquired much wealth, and no harm would have touched  
me. I am not except a warner and a bringer of good tidings to a  
people who believe.

أَلَمْ يَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ سِرَّهُمْ وَنَجْوَاهُمْ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَّامُ الْغُيُوبِ ﴿٧٨﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ التَّوْبَةِ﴾

Did they not know that Allah knows their secrets and their  
private conversations and that Allah is the Knower of the  
unseen?

يَعْتَذِرُونَ إِلَيْكُمْ إِذَا رَجَعْتُمْ إِلَيْهِمْ قُلْ لَا تَعْتَذِرُوا لَنْ تُؤْمِنَ لَكُمْ قَدْ نَبَّأَنَا اللَّهُ مِنْ  
أَخْبَارِكُمْ وَسَيَرَى اللَّهُ عَمَلَكُمْ وَرَسُولُهُ ثُمَّ تُرَدُّونَ إِلَىٰ عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ فَيُنَبِّئُكُمْ  
بِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٩٦﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ التَّوْبَةِ﴾

They will make excuses to you when you have returned to them. Say, "Make no excuse - never will we believe you. Allah has already informed us of your news. And Allah will observe your deeds, and [so will] His Messenger; then you will be taken back to the Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, and He will inform you of what you used to do.

وَقُلْ اَعْمَلُوا فَسَيَرَى اللّٰهُ عَمَلَكُمْ وَرَسُولُهُ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَسَتُرَدُّونَ اِلٰى عَالَمِ الْغَيْبِ  
وَالشَّهَادَةِ فَيُنَبِّئُكُمْ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٠٥﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ التَّوْبَةِ﴾

And say, "Do [as you will], for Allah will see your deeds, and [so, will] His Messenger and the believers. And you will be returned to the Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, and He will inform you of what you used to do.

وَيَقُولُونَ لَوْلَا اُنْزِلَ عَلَيْهِ آيَةٌ مِنْ رَّبِّهِ فَقُلْ اِنَّمَا الْغَيْبُ لِلّٰهِ فَانْتَظِرُوا اِنِّى مَعَكُمْ مِنَ  
الْمُنْتَظِرِينَ ﴿٢٠﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ يُوسُفَ﴾

And they say, "Why is a sign not sent down to him from his Lord?" So say, "The unseen is only for Allah [to administer], so wait; indeed, I am with you among those who wait.

وَلَا اَقُولُ لَكُمْ عِنْدِي خَزَايِنُ اللّٰهِ وَلَا اَعْلَمُ الْغَيْبَ وَلَا اَقُولُ اِنِّى مَلَكٌ وَلَا اَقُولُ لِلَّذِينَ  
تَزْدَرِيْ اَعْيُنُكُمْ لَنْ يُؤْتِيَهُمُ اللّٰهُ خَيْرًا اللّٰهُ اَعْلَمُ بِمَا فِيْ اَنْفُسِهِمْ اِنِّىْ اِذَا لَمِنَ الظّٰلِمِيْنَ ﴿٣١﴾  
﴿سُورَةُ هُوْدَ﴾

And I do not tell you that I have the depositories [containing the provision] of Allah or that I know the unseen, nor do I tell you that I am an angel, nor do I say of those upon whom your eyes look down that Allah will never grant them any good. Allah

is most knowing of what is within their souls. Indeed, I would then be among the wrongdoers.

وَلِلَّهِ غَيْبُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَإِلَيْهِ يُرْجَعُ الْأَمْرُ كُلُّهُ فَاعْبُدْهُ وَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَيْهِ وَمَا رَبُّكَ بِغَافِلٍ عَمَّا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٢٣﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ هُودٍ﴾

And to Allah belong the unseen [aspects] of the heavens and the earth and to Him will be returned the matter, all of it, so worship Him and rely upon Him. And your Lord is not unaware of that which you do.

عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ الْكَبِيرِ الْمُتَعَالِ ﴿٩﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الرَّعْدِ﴾

[He is] Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, the Grand, the Exalted.

وَلِلَّهِ غَيْبُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا أَمْرُ السَّاعَةِ إِلَّا كَلَمْحِ الْبَصَرِ أَوْ هُوَ أَقْرَبُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿٧٧﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ النَّحْلِ﴾

And to Allah belongs the unseen [aspects] of the heavens and the earth. And the command for the Hour is not but as a glance of the eye or even nearer. Indeed, Allah is over all things competent.

قُلِ اللَّهُ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا لَبِثُوا لَهُ غَيْبُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ أَبْصِرْ بِهِ وَأَسْمِعْ مَا لَهُمْ مِنْ دُونِهِ مِنْ وَلِيٍّ وَلَا يُشْرِكُ فِي حُكْمِهِ أَحَدًا ﴿٦٦﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْكَهْفِ﴾

Say, "Allah is most knowing of how long they remained. He has [knowledge of] the unseen [aspects] of the heavens and the earth. How Seeing is He and how Hearing! They have not

besides Him any protector, and He shares not His legislation with anyone.

عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ فَتَعَالَى عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ ﴿٩٢﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ﴾

[He is] Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, so high is He above what they associate [with Him].

قُلْ لَا يَعْلَمُ مَنْ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ الْغَيْبَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَمَا يَشْعُرُونَ أَيَّانَ يُبْعَثُونَ ﴿٦٥﴾

﴿سُورَةُ النَّملِ﴾

Say, "None in the heavens and earth knows the unseen except Allah, and they do not perceive when they will be resurrected.

ذَلِكَ عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ الْعَزِيزُ الرَّحِيمُ ﴿٦﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ السَّجْدَةِ﴾

That is the Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, the Exalted in Might, the Merciful.

وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لَا تَأْتِينَا السَّاعَةُ قُلْ بَلَىٰ وَرَبِّي لَتَأْتِيَنَّكُمْ عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ لَا يَعْزُبُ عَنْهُ مِثْقَالُ ذَرَّةٍ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَلَا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَلَا أَصْغَرُ مِنْ ذَلِكَ وَلَا أَكْبَرُ إِلَّا فِي كِتَابٍ

مُبِينٍ ﴿٣﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ سَبَأٍ﴾

But those who disbelieve say, "The Hour will not come to us."

Say, "Yes, by my Lord, it will surely come to you. [Allah is] the Knower of the unseen." Not absent from Him is an atom's weight within the heavens or within the earth or [what is] smaller than that or greater, except that it is in a clear register.

قُلْ إِنَّ رَبِّي يَقْذِفُ بِالْحَقِّ عَلَآمُ الْغُيُوبِ ﴿٤٨﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ سَبَأٍ﴾

Say, "Indeed, my Lord projects the truth. Knower of the unseen.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ إِنَّهُ عَلِيمٌ بِذَاتِ الصُّدُورِ ﴿٣٨﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ فَاطِرٍ﴾

Indeed, Allah is Knower of the unseen [aspects] of the heavens and earth. Indeed, He is Knowing of that within the breasts.

قُلِ اللَّهُمَّ فَاطِرَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ أَنْتَ تَحْكُمُ بَيْنَ عِبَادِكَ فِي مَا كَانُوا فِيهِ يَخْتَلِفُونَ ﴿٤٦﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الزُّمَرِ﴾

Say, "O Allah, Creator of the heavens and the earth, Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, You will judge between your servants concerning that over which they used to differ.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ غَيْبَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاللَّهُ بَصِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٨﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْحُجُرَاتِ﴾

Indeed, Allah knows the unseen [aspects] of the heavens and the earth. And Allah is Seeing of what you do.

أَمْ عِنْدَهُمُ الْغَيْبُ فَهُمْ يَكْتُبُونَ ﴿٤١﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الطُّورِ﴾

Or have they [knowledge of] the unseen, so they write [it] down?

أَعِنْدَهُ عِلْمُ الْغَيْبِ فَهُوَ يَرَى ﴿٣٥﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ النَّجْمِ﴾

Does he have knowledge of the unseen, so he sees?

هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ هُوَ الرَّحْمَنُ الرَّحِيمُ ﴿٢٢﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْحَشْرِ﴾



He is Allah, other than whom there is no deity, Knower of the unseen and the witnessed. He is the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful.

قُلْ إِنَّ الْمَوْتَ الَّذِي تَفِرُّونَ مِنْهُ فَإِنَّهُ مُلَاقِيكُمْ ثُمَّ تُرَدُّونَ إِلَىٰ عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ  
فَيُنَبِّئُكُمْ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٨﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْجُمُعَةِ﴾

Say, "Indeed, the death from which you flee - indeed, it will meet you. Then you will be returned to the Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, and He will inform you about what you used to do.

عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿١٨﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ التَّغَابُنِ﴾

Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

عَالِمِ الْغَيْبِ فَلَا يُظْهِرُ عَلَىٰ غَيْبِهِ أَحَدًا ﴿٣٦﴾ ﴿سُورَةُ الْجِنِّ﴾

[He is] Knower of the unseen, and He does not disclose His [knowledge of the] unseen to anyone.